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We claim

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1. A process for isomerizing cis-2-pentenenitrile to trans-3-pentenenitrile in the presence of aluminum oxide as a catalyst, wherein the aluminum oxide has a BET surface area of at least 50 m²/g and the reaction is carried out at a temperatuare in the range of from 50°C to 250°C.
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2. The process according to claim 1, wherein the aluminum oxide has a BET surface area of at least 70 m²/g.
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3. The process according to claim 1, wherein the aluminum oxide has a BET surface area of at most 400 m²/g.
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4. The process according to any of claims 1 to 3, wherein the isomerization is carried out in the liquid phase.
5. The process according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the reaction is carried out at a temperature of at least 120°C and at most 200°C.